

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 ROME 13960 151421Z

46

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03 NEA-10

NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 USIA-15 TRSE-00

SAJ-01 SS-20 NSC-10 IO-14 DODE-00 ACDA-19 AEC-11

OMB-01 DRC-01 /157 W

----- 012717

R 151255Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2363

INFO USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY OSLO

S E C R E T ROME 13960

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OCON, NATO

SUBJECT: NATO MINISTERIAL

1. IN DECEMBER 14 CONVERSATION WITH EMBOFF, CHIEF OF MFA NATO OFFICE (DA RIN) OFFERED HIS PERSONAL ASSESSMENT OF NATO MINISTERIAL. HE SAID THE MINISTERIAL HAD COME OUT LESS WELL THAN HE HAD HOPED, IN THAT THERE HAD NOT BEEN A MEETING OF THE MINDS ON THE BASIC CAUSES OF THE RIFTS THAT HAD DEVELOPED IN THE ALLIANCE. DA RIN SAID THAT PART OF THE PROBLEM WAS THE FORMAT. THE FIRST SESSION CONSISTED OF EUROPEAN (EXCEPT FRANCE) INTERVENTIONS, ALL OF WHICH WERE OF A GENERALLY CONCILIATORY TONE. THE MINISTERIAL CONCLUDED WITH THE SECRETARY'S PRESENTATION WHICH RAISED SOME BASIC QUESTIONS ABOUT THE ALLIANCE WHICH, DA RIN THOUGHT WERE AT LEAST IN PART ANSWERED BY THE PREVIOUS INTERVENTIONS AND FINALLY THERE HAD BEEN THE EXCHANGE WITH JOBERT ON THE PREVENTION OF NUCLEAR WAR

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 ROME 13960 151421Z

AGREEMENT AND THE MIDDLE EAST CONFLICT. HAD THE INTERVENTIONS BEEN

REVERSED, OR HAD THERE BEEN A FREER GIVE AND TAKE DISCUSSION, THE RESULTS WOULD HAVE BETTER CRYSTALLIZED THE CENTRAL POINT OF THE MEETING: THE SOLIDARITY OF THE ALLIANCE CONTINUES TO BE THE OVERRIDING IMPERATIVE OF US-EUROPEAN RELATIONS. AS IT IS, DA RIN INDICATED HE WAS NOT QUITE SURE WHERE WE ALL GO FROM HERE.

2. EMBOFF RESPONDED BY NOTING THAT THE FREE "GIVE AND TAKE" APPROACH WAS CONTRARY TO THE POSITION THE ITALIANS HAD TAKEN EARLIER, I.E., RETAIN THE LENGTHY FORMAL SET PIECES BY EACH MINISTER. DA RIN ACKNOWLEDGED THAT THE ITALIAN POSITION WAS PROBABLY MISTAKEN AND HAD BEEN ADOPTED BECAUSE MORO WAS PERHAPS THE ONLY MINISTER WHO WOULD REQUIRE AN INTERPRETER, HENCE, ITALY WOULD PLAY A BACK SEAT ROLE IN A FREE WHEELING DISCUSSION. WITH RESPECT TO THE DOUBTS THAT DA RIN EVINCED AS TO WHERE WE GO FROM HERE, EMBOFF OBSERVED THAT THE BALL IS NOW IN THE EUROPEAN COURT. THE SECRETARY, HE SAID, HAD MADE THE US CASE FOR CLOSER CONSULTATIONS IN THE DECISION MAKING PROCESS AND WE WOULD BE WAITING FOR CONCRETE EUROPEAN RESPONSES. SPECIFICALLY, HE EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT THE UPCOMING EC SUMMIT WOULD NOT RESULT IN ANY SURPRISES FOR THE US, THAT OUR VIEWS ON THE TWO DECLARATIONS WOULD BE GIVEN FULL CONSIDERATION, THAT THE EUROPEANS WOULD TAKE UP THE SECRETARY'S SUGGESTION FOR GREATER INSTITUTIONALIZATION OF THE CONSULTATIVE PROCESS, AND THAT THE EUROPEAN RESPONSE TO OUR CALL FOR AN ENERGY ACTION GROUP WOULD BE POSITIVE.

3. DA RIN SAID THAT HE SHARED THESE HOPES AND ASSURED EMBOFF THAT ITALY WOULD DO ITS PART. HE WENT ON TO NOTE THAT HE WAS MORE CONCERNED ABOUT THE LONG RUN. THE MINISTERIAL HAD NOT HEALED THE STRAINS THAT HAVE DEVELOPED WITHIN THE ALLIANCE AND INDEED THESE STRAINS WOULD PROBABLY CONTINUE TO PERSIST. HE SAID THAT THE GOI WAS GRATEFUL FOR THE SECRETARY'S REASSURANCES REGARDING US SUPPORT FOR EUROPEAN UNITY. DA RIN EMPHASIZED THAT THE FUTURE HOLDS GREAT CHALLENGES FOR EUROPE. EUROPEANS MUST SIMPLY WORK HARDER THAN EVER BEFORE AND DISPLAY GREATER CLARITY OF VISION TO INSURE THAT THIS "PLANT" WHICH THE US HAS NURTURED AND PROTECTED FOR 25 YEARS WOULD NOT TURN POISONOUS IN HER EYES. VOLPE

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 DEC 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: hilburpw
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973ROME13960
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: ROME
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731222/aaaaaqhn.tel
Line Count: 98
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: hilburpw
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 18 SEP 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <18-Sep-2001 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <15-Oct-2001 by hilburpw>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NATO MINISTERIAL
TAGS: OCON, NATO
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005